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### News Release - 1979-10-17

E. De la Garza

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# news release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

17 October 1979

WASHINGTON D C -- Rep Kika de la Garza secured an agreement on the House floor from Peter Rodino, chairman of the House Committee on the Judiciary, that will require the Immigration and Naturalization Service, under authority granted in the Justice Department Authorization Bill, to consult with Congress through the Judiciary Committee before any innovative additions or changes are made on existing fencing on the U.S.-Mexico border.

De la Garza hailed the support of his colleagues in his effort to establish this as part of the legislative history of the authorization bill. Chairman Rodino assured de la Garza he would notify the INS.

Rep de la Garza said, "Millions of tax dollars could be wasted to construct this fence barrier that apparently is not working. It can not work. And more important, it is an affront to human dignity.

"This fence is offensive to Mexico," de la Garza said, "and is making it difficult to improve our strained relations with our sister Republic. This agreement will restore dignity to the way we deal with the sensitive problem of illegal immigration and help foster better relations with our neighbor to the south. This is important if we are to arrive at some mutual agreement on a possible solution to the overall problem of immigration, so that fences such as this would not be needed."

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